

AR0026

SFUND RECORDS CTR  
88111106

PACIFIC COAST PIPELINE

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

Fillmore, CA

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Hazardous Waste Management Division  
Region 9

October 1989

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|   | Page  |
|---|-------|
| A. Introduction                                       | 1     |
| B. Site History                                       | 2-4   |
| C. Community Profile                                  | 5-6   |
| D. Highlights of the Community Interviews             |       |
| Background of past community involvement              | 7-8   |
| Key community concerns                                | 8-10  |
| E. Community Relations Strategy                       | 11-15 |
| F. Community Relations Activities and Schedule        | 16-19 |
| <br>  |       |
| Appendix A: Information Repository                    | 20    |
| Appendix B: Media List                                | 21-22 |
| Appendix C: Community Meeting Locations               | 23    |
| Appendix D: City County, and Federal Officials        | 24-25 |
| Appendix E: Agency Contacts                           | 26    |
| <br>  |       |
| List of figures                                       |       |
| <br>  |       |
| Figure 1: Site Location Map                           | 27    |
| Figure 2: Fillmore Location Map                       | 28    |
| Figure 3: Timeline for Community Relations Activities | 29    |

## Introduction

The purpose of a Community Relations Plan (CRP) is to provide a strategy for involving the community in the site investigation and clean-up process. Each site has a CRP developed that is specific to the community's interest and expectations.

The CRP identifies the community's area of concern and develops the mechanisms and timeframes for community involvement. The community relations process is a dynamic one, updated throughout the site investigation period to reflect any new or changing concerns of the community.

This CRP was prepared by the Office of Community Relations Staff and the EPA Remedial Project Manager. Information to develop this CRP was based upon personal and telephone interviews conducted by EPA staff with City and County officials, as well as community members.

The designated EPA contact person for this site is:

Norman Calero

Community Relations Coordinator

Telephone No. (415) 974-8003

(after October 10, 1989 - (415) 744-2183)

## Site History

Pacific Coast Pipeline (PCP) is located at 67 East Telegraph Road in the city of Fillmore, Ventura County, California (see site location map figure 1 on page 26). PCP was the site of a Texaco Co. (Texaco) refinery from 1920 to 1950. The small refinery disposed of liquid and semisolid refinery wastes in eight on-site unlined pits. The main waste disposal area is a large pit along the western boundary of the site. Following the closure of the refinery in 1950, the majority of the refinery was dismantled leaving only a garage and several tanks.

PCP, a department of Texaco, took over the facility in 1953 and has operated to the present as a crude-oil pumping station. It is believed that the waste disposal areas on-site have not been used since 1950.

The PCP property is approximately 1,000 feet long and 4,375 feet wide and is bordered by Pole Creek, highway 126 to the south, and the steep hills to the north and east.

In 1980 Texaco approached the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) with a proposal to remove contaminated soil from the pits and sumps on-site and spread it onto the facility's roads. The Regional Board reviewed this proposal and requested additional information including chemical analysis of the wastes on-site. After an initial analysis of the

wastes was conducted by Texaco, the concentrations of lead in the samples prompted Texaco to conduct a site investigation. The site investigation was conducted in 1983 and revealed ground water and soil contamination.

The California Department of Health Services (DHS) became involved with PCP during the site investigation. Soil samples taken from six of the eight hazardous waste areas contained various levels of trace metals (lead concentrations were high in the main pit area) and hydrocarbons; mainly benzene. The three ground water samples taken from on-site monitor wells, showed benzene contamination as high as 798 ppb and ethylbenzene contamination as high as 14.4 ppb. EPA considers these compounds potentially hazardous to human health and the environment.

In the summer of 1986 Texaco implemented a remedial action plan and removed some of the contaminated soil at the facility. DHS has not certified the adequacy of the soil clean-up. DHS believes that the potential migration of hazardous materials may still be possible. The site is also adjacent to San Cayetano Elementary School and the El Dorado Pines Mobile Home Park (please see the map on page 26), and may impact this area of Fillmore. Texaco has also installed a groundwater wells to ascertain possible impact on the drinking water supplies. On the basis of this potential problem, the site was proposed for the National Priorities List (NPL) in June 1988. The NPL is a national ranking of hazardous waste sites to be addressed under the

Superfund program.

Texaco will be conducting additional work at the site under the oversight of EPA to determine if additional clean-up efforts are necessary and to what extent.

## Community Profile

The City of Fillmore is in Ventura County, situated about halfway between Santa Barbara and Los Angeles in the Santa Clara Valley. Fillmore is located in the coastal range mountains of Southern California 20 miles from U.S. Highway 101, off Highway 126. (See Figure 2 on page 27).

Founded in 1888 and incorporated in 1914, the population today is approximately 11,000. A significant number of the population is Hispanic and there is also a large retirement community. One third of the population is under the age of eighteen.

Although no longer a strong economic force, many of the residents were once employed by major oil companies that operated in the area. Today, citrus production is the major employer in Fillmore, as well as other neighboring communities. Some light industrial manufacturers also contribute to Fillmore's economic base. Currently, union representation is limited in Fillmore, and there is a surplus of non-skilled laborers. Unemployment is mainly in the non-skilled labor category.

Fillmore is a moderately sized town in which the length of time lived in the town and land ownership are important characteristics for community leaders. City officials have regular jobs, as well as hold their elected positions.

The number of residents that commute to other areas during the day for work appears to be increasing from past trends.



## Highlights of Community Interviews

The following community issues and concerns were expressed to EPA during personal interviews with City officials and staff, as well as members of the public on June 26 and 27, 1989. Some additional telephone interviews were also conducted during the two week period immediately following the personal interviews.

### Background of Past Involvement

There does not appear to have been any organized past community involvement centered around the PCP site. Interest in the former Texaco site did not surface until the early part of the initial soil removal.

During the initial soil removal effort, elected officials received some phone calls from the teachers and parents at the school, directly adjacent to the former Texaco refinery site. Most of these inquiries appeared to be on a person by person basis and not as a group. However, the principal also contacted Texaco on behalf of the teachers. The teachers and parents all complained about a odor problems during the early portion of the initial soil excavation. A subsequent meeting was conducted at the school in which several Texaco representatives provided a briefing of the removal effort.

Elected officials and staff that were interviewed did not

report any additional inquiries from the community since the initial ones.

Texaco conducted a public meeting directly prior to the initial soil excavation on February 13, 1986. The meeting did not receive a large turnout. Only a half dozen community members attended. A few people who were interviewed reported that the poor attendance may have been due to the heavy rain the night of the meeting.

#### Community Concerns

Almost all of the officials cited a recent Underground Storage Tank clean-up as a very expensive proposition and that maybe the clean-up standards were too excessive. Many of the local officials felt that environmental standards and requirements were sometimes taken to the extreme and not reflective of real life situations. Several of the interviewed officials questioned how "parts per million" of any substance could really be harmful.

One City staff member mentioned two recent hazardous spill incidents in the area and thought that these events would heighten the community's concerns about the former Texaco site activities. However, no other City officials or community members brought these incidents up during the interviews. Knowledge of the Superfund and hazardous waste programs was minimal.

Several community members felt that long-time residents were used to areas contaminated with petroleum by-products. The feeling was that before the passage of environmental laws in the last few decades, people lived with contamination of this sort and really did not give much thought to the impacts.

Several teachers who worked at San Cayetano Elementary School were interviewed and were concerned with the health effects related to the site. Several other community members also wanted to know about the health effects. Almost all of the teachers who were interviewed said that during the initial soil excavation, a terrible smell was present and caused them to become ill. Several teachers mentioned that one of the teachers who was pregnant suffered a miscarriage and did not know if the site had anything to do with it. During the briefing at the San Cayetano Elementary School, Texaco representatives had assured teachers that there was no danger and that the problem was being cleaned up.

Almost all of the community and City officials had assumed that the clean-up of the former Texaco refinery site was complete. With a few exceptions, most of the people who were interviewed believed that Texaco had a good track record and would do the right thing in cleaning up the problem.

One person who was interviewed was new to the community and cited the reluctance of the Hispanic community to go outside of

their neighborhood for meetings. It is assumed that interest from this portion of Fillmore's population would be reflective of the rest of the community.

Most of the interviewed individuals felt that a direct mailing from EPA would be more effective than utilization of local media sources.

Two individuals who were interviewed were involved with real estate development and sales. Both expressed a concern about information that could impact the development and sale of property in Fillmore. Both individuals stressed that clean-up of the site should proceed as soon as possible.

Many community members expressed a concern about the site's possible impact on drinking water supplies. Several people interviewed said that they were alarmed when they saw men in white safety suits during the soil excavation work in 1986.

## Community Relations Strategy

Based on EPA's assessment of the community's needs and concerns as reported in the preceding sections of this document, the community relations program at the Pacific Coast Pipeline site has been designed to address the following specific objectives:

- o Provide interested community members with information about studies and findings at the site.
- o Provide an opportunity for ongoing two-way communication between EPA and the public on site-related issues and proposed site activities.
- o Monitor public concerns and information needs so that community relations techniques can be modified as necessary.

Activities for achieving these goals are explained below.

1. Provide interested community members with information about studies and findings at the site. EPA will send out fact sheets as well as media releases so that citizens can have direct access to EPA views and information. Elected officials have asked to be kept informed of the scope, progress, and results of studies so that they can respond to citizen queries. Elected officials are viewed by the community as a good source of information and indicated an interest in continuing to provide this

service. EPA recognizes the concerns of the local officials that the community not be unduly alarmed by EPA's investigations, yet the agency has a responsibility to keep those who may be interested in or impacted by the investigation informed of site-related developments.

Because of the interest level of the San Cayetano School teachers, it will be important to inform the faculty and students prior to the beginning of on-site activities. Residents must also be given advance warning of on-site activities. Otherwise, the presence of sampling teams or the release of inaccurate information has a potential for unduly alarming the nearby community.

The business community expressed a need to have the clean-up proceed as soon as possible. Fact sheets should include a schedule for the RI/FS process to address this concern.

The initial fact sheet will provide general background on the superfund process, the work already done on site, the timeframe for the RI/FS and Community Relations activities. This fact sheet will also describe how health impacts will be addressed and inform the public that their drinking water is not immediately impacted. A briefing will be provided to the city council and other local officials at the start of the RI/RS process. Mailing lists will be continually updated by EPA in response to new requests for information.

To provide interested persons with background and technical information about the site, EPA has established information repositories at the Fillmore Public library and at the Fillmore City Hall. Copies of all major documents produced in connection with the cleanup will be placed in the repository, including this community relations plan, the administrative record, and fact sheets on the site. General brochures on the Superfund process and EPA's hazardous waste programs will also be provided to the repositories.

EPA recognizes the large spanish speaking community in Fillmore, and therefore will make available spanish translations of all fact sheets sent out to the public. Additional efforts may be made to keep the Hispanic community informed of the ongoing work on the site if interest levels dictate this need.

2. Provide an opportunity for ongoing two-way communication between EPA and the public on site-related issues and proposed site activities. An integral part of the federal Superfund program is the dialogue that EPA strives to establish between the community potentially affected by a Superfund site and the agency staff and others who have been given the authority to investigate and clean up the site. The first step in ensuring that such opportunities for dialogue occur at the Pacific Coast Pipeline site was the community interview process that was the basis for developing the plan. The local officials and inter-

ested San Cayetano staff will be briefed at the start of the RI/FS process. Other opportunities include holding community meetings as needed and publishing the number of a toll-free information line (800-231-3075). EPA will continue to identify other opportunities for community input and direction.

A community meeting will be held upon the completion of the draft Feasibility Study (FS). Texaco will also be invited to attend these meetings. The draft FS, which will describe the findings of the investigation and recommended cleanup actions, will be available for public review for a minimum of thirty days. The public meeting to describe and discuss the FS and EPA's proposed plan for cleaning up the site will be held in the early part of the comment period, with public notices placed in the local papers two weeks prior to the release of the draft FS.

Following the close of the public comment period, a Responsiveness Summary will be prepared that summarizes and responds to the questions and comments raised by the community on the draft FS report. The Responsiveness Summary will be included as part of the Record of Decision (ROD) on the cleanup alternative selected by EPA. EPA will make both documents available to anyone who requests them and will place them in the information repositories.

Once EPA selects a cleanup alternative meetings will be held with interested members of the public (e.g., San Cayetano staff, local businesses, and the Fillmore City Council) to ex-



plain and discuss the remedial work at Pacific Coast Pipeline that will be conducted during the Remedial Design and Remedial Action phases.

3. Monitor public concerns and information needs so that community relations techniques can be modified as necessary. The intent of this plan is to identify the community's current concerns regarding the Pacific Coast Pipeline site. The community relations program is designed to address and respond to those concerns. Current concern appears to be low. However, events can occur that quickly change the attitudes and information needs of community members living in the area of a Superfund site. EPA, therefore, will watch for indications of shifting public concerns and will incorporate changes to this community relations plan as needed to respond to those needs.

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES AND SCHEDULE

Recommended EPA community relations activities for the Pacific Coast Pipeline site are listed below as they correspond to remedial technical milestones.

| <u>Technical Milestones</u>                             | <u>Community Relations Activities</u>  |
|---|--|
| 1. Remedial Investigation/<br>Feasibility Study (RI/FS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Establish and maintain up-dated mailing list</li><li>o Prepare and distribute fact sheets to mailing list and information repositories (one announcing the beginning of RI work, and the other summarizing the RI report)</li><li>o Establish and maintain information repositories with sample results, progress updates, RI report, fact sheets and relevant technical documents</li><li>o Maintain contact with local officials and community</li></ul> |

leaders, including Fillmore city council, regarding any significant findings

- o Provide progress updates as appropriate

## 2. Completion of Draft FS

- o Prepare fact sheet summarizing draft FS and explaining

proposed cleanup plan

- o Update information repository with draft FS report

- o Announce availability of FS and public comment period through news releases, community publications, or newsletters

- o Provide 30-day public comment period on draft FS report

- o Provide opportunities for community members and officials to discuss potential cleanup solutions with agency project staff on an informal basis

- o Hold public meeting to re-

ceive comments on proposed  
cleanup plan

3. Completion of Final FS  
and the signing of the  
Record of Decision (ROD)

- o Prepare Responsiveness Summary
- o Prepare update announcing and explaining selected cleanup alternative
- o Prepare news release announcing selected alternative
- o Alert local officials and other community leaders of EPA's cleanup alternative
- o Update information repository with Final FS and the ROD
- o Place articles in the local newspapers and/or distribute a fact sheet that announces the selected cleanup alternative
- o Revise Community Relations Plan

4. Remedial Design and  
Remedial Action (RD/RA)

- o Meet with local officials and community contacts to discuss EPA remedial action plans

- o Distribute a fact sheet that describes the selection of the remedial action and upcoming remedial action activities

## INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

Fillmore Public Library  
502 Second Street  
Fillmore, CA 93015

(805) 524-3355

Contact: Betty Cook

Hours: Mon-Weds 10am-9pm  
closed weekends

Xerox machine: yes

Fillmore City Hall  
524 Sespe Road  
Fillmore, CA 93015

(805) 524-3701

Contacts: Noreen Withers  
Roy Payne

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:45am-5pm  
closed weekends

Xerox machine: no

### Other suggested locations:

San Cayetano Elementary School  
514 Mountain View  
Fillmore, CA 93015

Fillmore Chamber of Commerce  
344 Central Avenue  
P.O. Box 276  
Fillmore, CA 93015

El Dorado Pines Mobile Home Park  
250 E. Telegraph Road  
Fillmore, CA 93015

## MEDIA LIST

### NEWSPAPERS:

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Fillmore Herald<br>P.O. Box 727<br>Fillmore, CA 93015                                   | (805) 524-0153 |
| Ventura County Star Free Press<br>Fillmore Edition<br>5250 Ralston<br>Ventura, CA 93003 | (805) 656-4111 |
| Daily Chronicle-Fillmore Outlook<br>116 N. 10th Street<br>Santa Paula, CA 93060         | (805) 525-5555 |
| Los Angeles Times<br>Ventura County Edition<br>5200 Valentine Road<br>Ventura, CA 93003 | (800) 542-7272 |
| La Opinion<br>P.O. Box 15093<br>Los Angeles, CA 90015                                   | (818) 781-1311 |
| Independent Community Newspapers<br>226 S. "A" Street<br>Oxnard, CA 93030               | (805) 483-3881 |

### TELEVISION:

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| KEYT Television<br>Ventura News Bureau<br>500 Esplanade Drive<br>Oxnard, CA 93030 | (805) 658-0294 |
| KTIE TV 64 News<br>663 Maulhardt Avenue<br>Oxnard, CA 93030                       | (805) 485-1707 |
| Cable Channel 6 TV<br>1954 E. Main Street<br>Ventura, CA 93001                    | (805) 643-1963 |

RADIO:

KCZN 1400 AM  
2284 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 656-3696

KDAR Radio  
500 Esplanade Drive  
Oxnard, CA 93030

KHAY Country FM 101  
3897 Market  
Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 642-8595

KMYX FM & KMIX 106  
1205 Maricopa Highway  
Ojai, CA 93023

(805) 646-1055

KVEN 1450 Radio  
3897 Market  
Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 642-8595

KTRO 1520 AM & KCAQ FM  
E. Pleasant Valley Road  
Oxnard, CA 93033

(805) 488-0901  
659-3260

KAGR Radio  
P.O. Box 6395  
Ventura, CA 93006

(805) 647-7774

KTYD FM 99.9  
500 E. Esplanade  
Oxnard, CA 93030

(805) 988-8133

KZTR 95.9 FM  
2284 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 656-3696



## LOCATIONS FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS

Fillmore City Council Chambers  
524 Sespe Road  
Fillmore, CA 93015

(805) 524-3701

Contact: Noreen Withers, City Clerk or Roy Payne, City Manager

Capacity: 60  
Reservations: several weeks in advance  
Cost: no charge

---

Fillmore High School  
555 Central Avenue  
Fillmore, CA 93015

(805) 524-0280

Contact: Carmen Fauver

Capacity: 1300  
Reservations: several weeks in advance  
Cost: no charge

---

Veterans Memorial Building  
511 2nd Street  
Fillmore, CA 93015

(805) 524-9148

Contact: John Holley

Reservations: Mon-Thur meetings--2 weeks in advance  
Fri-Sun meetings--7 months in advance

Dining room  
Capacity: 120  
Cost: \$75

Ballroom  
Capacity: 520  
Cost: \$150

---

Multipurpose Senior Center  
533 Santa Clara  
Fillmore CA, 93015

(805) 524-4533

Reservations: 30 days in advance  
Large Room  
Capacity: 175  
Cost: \$275 + \$100 deposit  
for four hours

Dining Room  
Capacity: 85  
Cost: \$175 + \$100 deposit  
for four hours

---

Other Suggestions:  
San Cayetano Elementary School  
Chamber of Commerce  
El Dorado Mobile Home Park

LIST OF CONTACTS

FILLMORE CITY OFFICIALS:

Roy Payne (805) 524-3701  
City Manager  
524 Sespe Road, Box 487  
Fillmore, CA 93015

Delores Day (805) 524-3701  
Mayor of Fillmore  
P.O. Box 487  
Fillmore, CA 93015

Roger Campbell (805) 524-3701  
City Council Member  
P.O. Box 487  
Fillmore, CA 93015

Marlene Davis (805) 524-0280  
Superintendent of Schools  
P.O. Box 697  
Fillmore, CA 93015

Mary Taylor (805) 524-0351  
Chamber of Commerce  
567 Sespe Avenue  
Fillmore, CA 93015

Fillmore Chamber of Commerce (805) 524-0351  
344 Central Avenue  
P.O. Box 276  
Fillmore, CA 93015

Pat Askrin (805) 524-3701  
Fire Chief  
P.O. Box 487  
Fillmore, CA 93015

Betty Cook (805) 524-3355  
Fillmore Public Library  
502 Second Street  
Fillmore, CA 93015

Jamie Castellanos, Principal (805) 524-1711  
Fillmore Unified School District  
P.O. Box 697  
Fillmore, CA 93015

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Assemblyman Tom McClintock, 36th district  
350 N. Lantana, Suite 222  
Camarillo, CA 93010

Assemblyman Jack O'Connell, 35th district  
300 South "C" Street  
Oxnard, CA 93030

Assemblywoman Cathie Wright, 37th district  
250 E. Easy  
Simi Valley, CA 93065

Senator Ed Davis  
11145 Tampa Avenue, Suite 21B  
Northridge, CA 91326

Senator Gary Hart  
801 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93003

FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Congressman Elton Gallegly  
200 N. Westlake Blvd.  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

Congressman Robert Lagomarsino  
5740 Ralston  
Ventura, CA 93003

TEXACO REPRESENTATIVES:

Gordon Turl  
Texaco, Manager of Environmental Programs  
10 Universal City Plaza  
Universal City, 91608-1097

VENTURA COUNTY and STATE OFFICIALS:

County Board of Supervisors  
800 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 654-2251

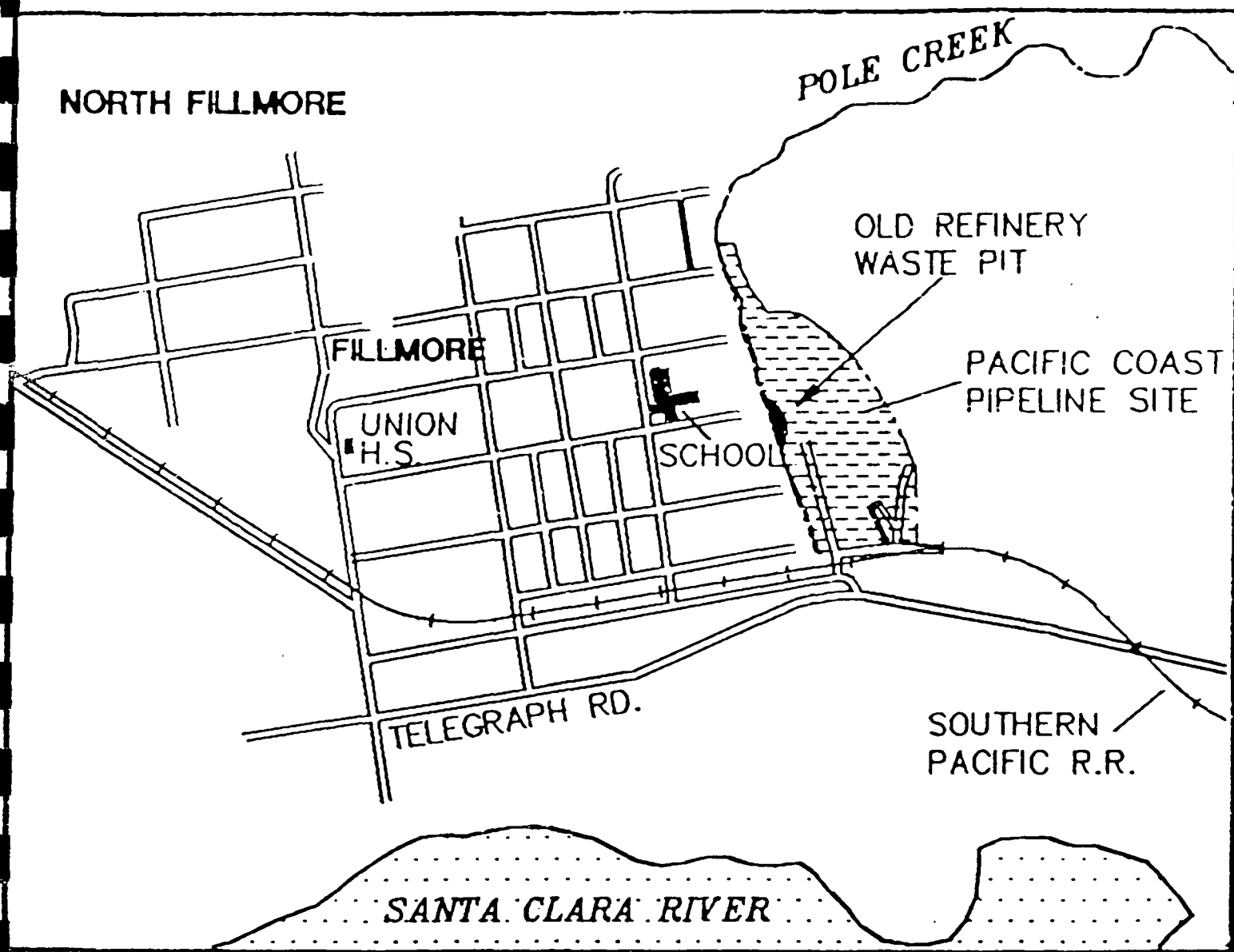
Al Escoto  
Assistant to Supervisor Erickson  
800 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

Terrence Gilday  
Technical Services Manager  
800 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

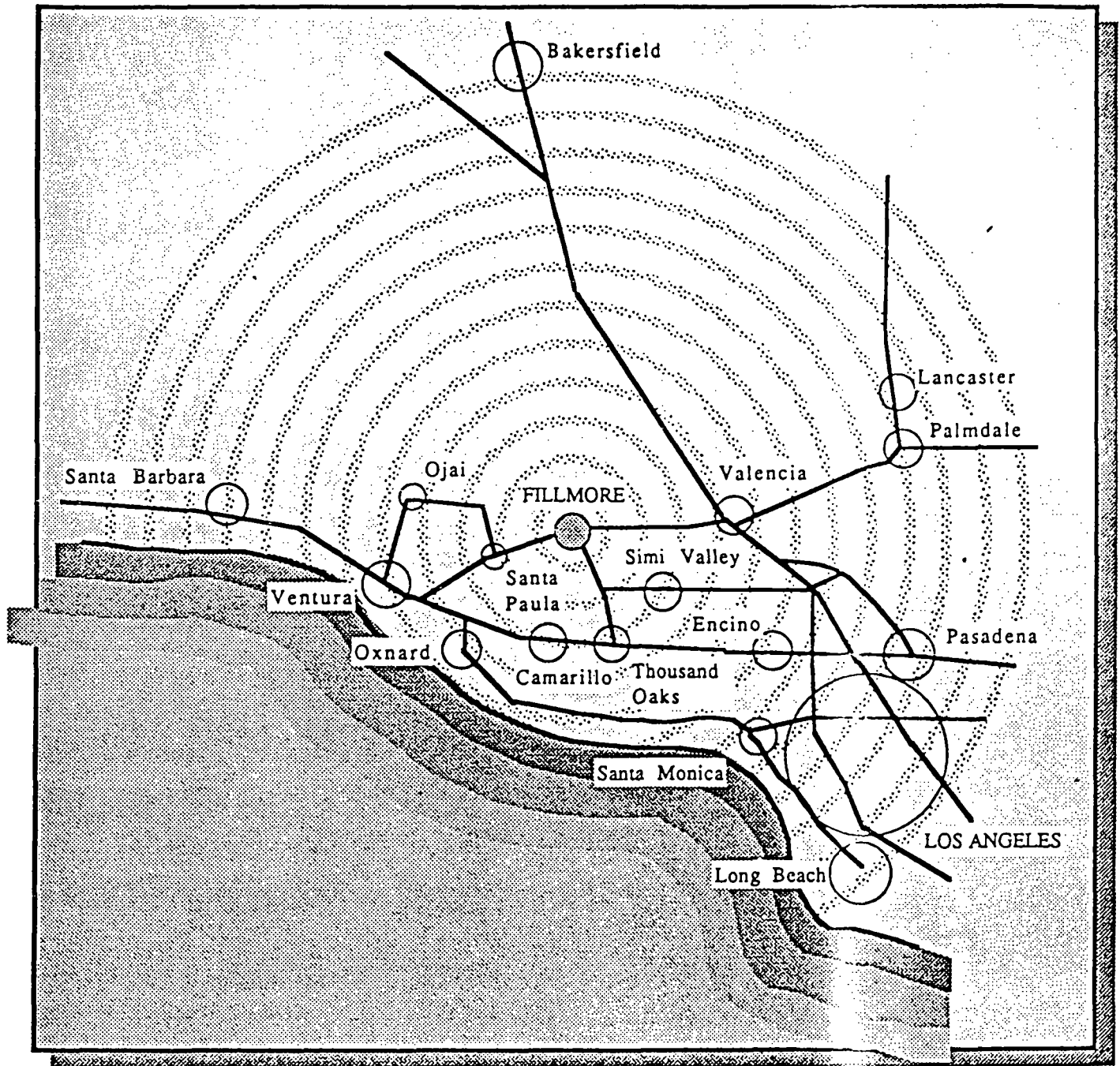
David Wadsworth  
Luft Program  
800 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

Joseph Crisologo  
L.A. Dept. of Health Services  
1405 N. San Fernando, Suite 300  
Burbank, CA 91504

Athar Kahn  
L.A. RWQCB  
107 S. Broadway, Room 4027  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

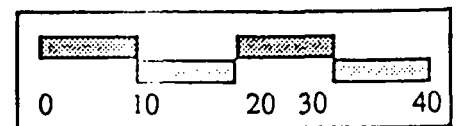


SITE LOCATION MAP



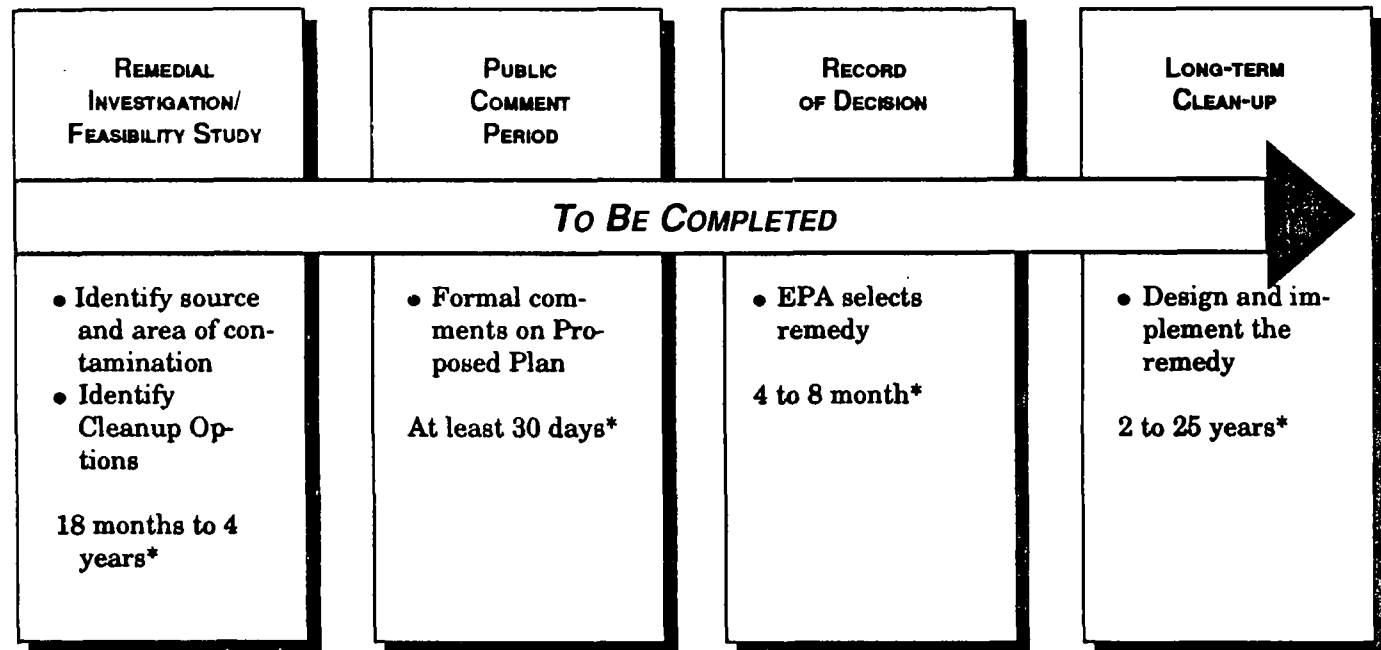
## Fillmore, California

*Regional Setting*



1 inch = 20 miles  
rings at 5 mile intervals

# PACIFIC COAST PIPELINE SITE SUPERFUND PROCESS



\* Timeframes are estimates based on project start date. Completion dates may change due to site complexity.

29

